

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-02 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00
FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04
TRSE-00 ACDA-10 PA-02 PRS-01 /121 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/RPE:REBRESLER:CC

APPROVED BY EUR/RPE:ACALBRECHT

-----031312Z 109063 /43

R 022221Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO EC BRUSSELS 4677

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

UNCLAS STATE 099176

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EC

SUBJECT: EC NOTE ON US ENERGY PROGRAM - AUTOMOBILES

THE EC DELEGATION DELIVERED THE FOLLOWING NOTE TO THE
DEPARTMENT ON MAY 2. BEGIN TEXT.

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THE DELEGATION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITIES PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
STATE AND HAS THE HONOUR TO REFER TO THE PROPOSALS
ON AUTOMOBILE TAXATION CONTAINED IN PRESIDENT CARTER'S
ENERGY MESSAGE TO CONGRESS ON 20 APRIL 1977.

THE DELEGATION IS INSTRUCTED TO INFORM THE DEPARTMENT OF

STATE THAT THE COMMISSION WELCOMES THE PRESIDENT'S ENERGY PROGRAMME IN ITS BROAD LINES, FOR ITS BOLDNESS IN TACKLING THE PROBLEMS OF ENERGY WASTE; HOWEVER THE COMMISSION LOOKS TO THE ADMINISTRATION TO SEE THAT THE VARIOUS DETAILED PROPOSALS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE PROGRAMME ARE INTRODUCED IN WAYS THAT DO NOT DISTORT INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

IN PARTICULAR, IN THE APPLICATION OF THE PROPOSED TAX REBATE FOR FUEL-EFFICIENT CARS, THE COMMISSION EXPECTS THAT FAIR TREATMENT WILL BE ACCORDED TO CARS IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED STATES AS COMPARED WITH DOMESTICALLY MADE CARS. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE COMMISSION HAS NOTED THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENTS THAT THE US WOULD SEEK AGREEMENTS WITH ITS TRADING PARTNERS TO ENSURE THAT THEY WERE TREATED FAIRLY. THE COMMISSION APPRECIATES THE OPPORTUNITY THUS PROVIDED FOR PRIOR CONSULTATIONS ON THE TREATMENT TO BE GIVEN TO PRODUCTS THAT CONSTITUTE THE LARGEST SINGLE ITEM IN THE COMMUNITY'S TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES. INDEED, INITIAL CONTACTS HAVE ALREADY TAKEN PLACE WITH THE PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL TRADE REPRESENTATIVE, WHOSE STATEMENTS WERE WELCOMED BY THE COMMISSION.

IF, NEVERTHELESS, THE NATURE OF THE TAXES IMPOSED, THE RATES AND COVERAGE OF TAX OR REBATE, OR THE STANDARDS OF AUTOMOBILE PERFORMANCE REQUIRED TO QUALIFY FOR REBATES, WERE SUCH AS TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST IMPORTED VEHICLES, SUCH MEASURES WOULD CONSTITUTE A NEW BARRIER ON TRADE,
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AND COULD BE CONTRARY NOT ONLY TO THE SPIRIT BUT ALSO TO THE LETTER OF THE GATT. THE COMMISSION THEREFORE TRUSTS THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WILL TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO ENSURE THAT ANY MEASURES INTRODUCED UNDER THE ENERGY PROGRAMME WILL NOT HAVE A DISCRIMINATORY IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY'S EXPORTS.

THE DELEGATION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES TAKES THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ASSURE THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENERGY, CONSERVATION, PRESIDENT, TAXES, AUTOMOBILES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), DIPLOMATIC NOTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE099176
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: REBRESLER:CC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770154-0916
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197705102/aaaadkwu.tel
Line Count: 110
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a62ae287-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2326997
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC NOTE ON US ENERGY PROGRAM - AUTOMOBILES THE EC DELEGATION DELIVERED THE FOLLOWING NOTE TO THE DEPARTMENT ON MAY 2. BEGIN TEXT.
TAGS: ETRD, US, EEC, (CARTER, JIMMY)
To: EC BRUSSELS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a62ae287-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009